

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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) Confirmation No.: 3718  
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)) Group Art Unit: 2161  
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)) Examiner: Kavita Padmanabhan  
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)) Docket No.: 2003P08062US  
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)) **PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**  
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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sirs:

Preliminary to Examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 7 of this paper.